

Message Text

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21

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4530

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

DIA WASHDC

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 3013

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CY, TU

SUBJECT: BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER MEETINGS WITH MAKARIOS
AND DENKTASH

USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD; USCINCEUR FOR POLAD

1. BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION BRIEFED EMBASSY SEPT. 27 ON MEETINGS
HIGH COMMISSIONER HAD LATE LAST WEEK (BEFORE DEPARTING THE ISLAND
ON LEAVE) WITH ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS AND TURK CYPRIOT LEADER DENKTASH.
REGARDING NEGOTIATIONS, MAKARIOS REPORTEDLY TOLD HIGH COMMISSIONER
THAT THERE WAS " NO CHANCE OF PROGRESS IN THE SHORT TERM, CERTAINLY
NOT UNTIL AFTER UNGA AND PROBABLY NOT UNTIL AFTER MAINLAND TURKISH
ELECTIONS IN OCTOBER." MAKARIOS REITERATED THAT HE COULD SUPPORT
A COMPROMISE SOLUTION BUT THAT IT HAD TO BE ON "REASONABLE
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TERMS." THE RETURN OF VAROSHA (NEW FAMAGUSTA) ALONE DID NOT

CONSTITUTE "REASONABLE TERMS." ASKED ABOUT TURK CYPRIOT UDI, MAKARIOS OBSERVED THAT IT WOULD MAKE A SETTLEMENT "MORE DIFFICULT." HE DID NOT SEEM UNDULY CONCERNED ABOUT UDI, ACCORDING TO HIGH COMMISSIONER, AND IN FACT SPECULATED THAT UDI COULD EVEN HAVE "CERTAIN TACTICAL ADVANTAGES IN THAT IT WOULD PROBABLY HARM DENKTASH." MAKARIOS ALSO RESTATED HIS FIRM OPPOSITION TO ANY DISCUSSIONS AT THE SUB-COMMITTEE LEVEL BEFORE THERE WAS "SOME AGREEMENT" IN THE VIENNA LEVEL TALKS FIRST. REGARDING U.S. ELECTIONS AND THE AMERICAN ROLE, HE FELT THERE WOULD BE NO CHANGE IN U.S. CYPRUS POLICY IN THE EVENT OF A FORD VICTORY AND TOOK A WAIT-AND-SEE ATTITUDE REGARDING POLICY CHANGES FOLLOWING A CARTER VICTORY. MAKARIOS ALSO TOLD HIGH COMMISSIONER THAT HE THOUGHT U.S. WAS AT FAULT FOR NOT DOING SOMETHING TO HELP CYPURS, THAT IT COULD HAVE DONE MORE TO PREVENT TURKISH INVASION, AND THAT IT COULD BE DOING MORE NOW.

2. WITH DENKTASH, HIGH COMMISSIONER URGED FLEXIBILITY IN NEGOTIATIONS AND FLOATED IDEA OF DENKTASH GIVING CONFIDENTIAL INDICATIONS TO SYG WALDHEIM OF TURK TERRITORIAL POSITIONS AS A MEANS OF REMOVING OBSTACLES TO TALKS' RESUMPTION. DENKTASH REPORTEDLY THREW COLD WATER ON THIS IDEA, CHARGED EC-9 WITH BEING "OVER ZEALOUS" IN PUSHING FOR NEGOTIATIONS WHEN SUBSTANTIAL CONDITIONS SIMPLY DID NOT EXIST, AND SUGGESTED A "COOLING OFF PERIOD." DENKTASH FREELY ADMITTED THAT HE WAS PRESSING ANKARA HARD ON BOTH THE UDI AND RESETTLEMENT OF FAMAGUSTA ISSUES. UDI, IN DENKTASH'S VIEW, WOULD CUT MAKARIOS DOWN TO SIZE AND RESETTLEMENT OF "ONE SECTOR OF VAROSHA" WOULD BE "SALUTARY WARNING" TO THE GREEK CYPRIOTS. DENKTASH ALSO REPORTEDLY ASSURED HIGH COMMISSIONER THAT THERE WOULD BE NO UDI ON TURKISH NATIONAL DAY OCTOBER 29 AND HIGH COMMISSIONER WAS LEFT WITH IMPRESSION THAT DENKTASH REALLY DID NOT EXPECT ANKARA TO APPROVE EITHER MOVE, AT LEAST FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE.
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